



*Library*

URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL OF  
BENTLEY-with-ARKSEY

**Thirty-First  
ANNUAL REPORT**

of the  
**SANITARY INSPECTOR**  
for 1955

by  
**J. T. BRIGGS**  
M.R.S.H., M.S.I.A.





URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL OF  
BENTLEY-with-ARKSEY

**Thirty-First  
ANNUAL REPORT**

of the  
**SANITARY INSPECTOR**  
for 1955

by  
**J. T. BRIGGS**  
M.R.S.H., M.S.I.A.



URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL OF  
BENTLEY-WITH-ARKSEY  
ANNUAL REPORT

of the  
SANITARY INSPECTOR, 1955

---

Public Health Department,  
Council Offices,  
Bentley,  
Nr. Doncaster.  
5th April, 1956.

TO THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF THE  
COUNCIL.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in presenting my report for the year 1955.

Work under the Housing Act culminated in five small Clearance Areas being confirmed and the demolition of some of the houses before the end of the year.

Statutory action had to be taken against a firm because of a nuisance from smoke and grit from the two boiler chimneys, which resulted in a great improvement, but observations are still being maintained.

Owing to my long absence because of illness, much work had to be left undone, particularly sampling, food shops and premises, and routine visits.

I should like to express my thanks to the staff for their work during the year, to Dr. Ferguson for his kindness and help, and to the Chairman and Members of the Council for their valuable support during this period.

Yours faithfully,

J. T. BRIGGS.  
Chief Sanitary Inspector.

---

**PUBLIC HEALTH STAFF**

**Medical Officer of Health:**

J. FERGUSON, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

**Chief Sanitary, Housing and Petroleum Inspector:**

J. T. BRIGGS, M.R.S.H., M.S.I.A.

Sanitary Inspector's Certificate

Sanitary Science Certificate

Meat and Food Inspector's Certificate

Smoke Inspector's Certificate

**Additional Sanitary Inspector:**

L. HAY, C.R.S.H., M.S.I.A.

Certificate of the Sanitary Inspector's Joint Board

Meat and Food Inspector's Certificate

Smoke Inspector's Certificate

**Clerk:**

J. WRIGHT (Mrs.)

# SANITARY INSPECTIONS OF THE AREA

## GENERAL:

Area of District—4,961 acres.  
Population—21,430.

	Visits	Revisits
No. of visits made ... ..	2,994	611
„ complaints received ... ..	620	
„ complaints confirmed ... ..	579	
„ verbal notices ... ..	365	
„ informal notices ... ..	164	
„ statutory notices ... ..	48	
„ letters and notices outstanding		
31st December, 1955 ... ..	120	
„ matters referred to Surveyor ...	118	

## Summary of Visits:

Slaughterhouses ... ..	373	
Meat and Food Inspections ... ..	412	
Accumulations ... ..	11	2
Animals and Poultry ... ..	3	2
Ashplaces and Dustbins ... ..	4	
Atmospheric Pollution ... ..	55	
Bakehouses ... ..	6	
Canteens and Kitchens ... ..	7	
Cesspools ... ..	23	
Cellars Flooded ... ..	2	1
Closets—Water ... ..	28	17
Closets—Pail and Privy ... ..	1	
Complaints investigated ... ..	620	
Complaints confirmed ... ..	579	
Dairies ... ..	6	
Drains and Sewers ... ..	94	17
Factories ... ..	14	
Fish Friers ... ..	1	
Food Stores and Shops ... ..	19	
Food Vans ... ..	4	
Food Preparing Places ... ..	12	
Houses re Scarlet Fever ... ..	25	
„ Poliomyelitis ... ..	3	
„ Dysentery ... ..	8	
„ Food Poisoning ... ..	11	
„ Prospective Council Tenants	316	
„ Sub-tenants ... ..	78	
„ Exchanges ... ..	108	
„ Council—vacated ... ..	42	
„ Dirty conditions ... ..	4	
Vermin—Bugs ... ..	7	
„ Vermin—other types ... ..	71	
Housing Act ... ..	211	496
Ice Cream Retailers ... ..	2	
Interviews ... ..	63	
Knackers' Yards ... ..	49	
Moveable Dwellings ... ..	260	
Moveable Dwelling Sites ... ..	73	
Noise ... ..	3	3

	Visits	Revisits
Nuisances noted ... ..	9	
Offensive Trades ... ..	50	
Petroleum ... ..	5	
Piggeries ... ..	4	
Rats and Mice ... ..	19	
Sampling:—		
Water—Chemical Test ... ..	6	
Sanitary Inspections ... ..	70	64
Shops Act ... ..	8	
Sewage Works ... ..	6	
Smoke Observations ... ..	16	
Special Visits ... ..	364	
Streams, Watercourses and Ponds ... ..	1	
Street Gullies and Channels ... ..	4	
Tips ... ..	10	
Urinals ... ..	3	
Water Supplies ... ..	5	
Yards ... ..	5	9

## IMPROVEMENTS CARRIED OUT UNDER THE PUBLIC HEALTH AND HOUSING ACTS

### Houses—Internal

Balustrades repaired ... ..	1
Bath waste pipes repaired ... ..	3
Coppers renewed ... ..	4
Copper brickwork repaired ... ..	6
Copper furnaces repaired ... ..	7
Doors repaired or renewed ... ..	33
Door fasteners renewed ... ..	36
Fireplaces:—	
Cooking ranges renewed ... ..	42
Open fireplaces renewed ... ..	15
Hearths renewed ... ..	7
Smoke nuisances cured ... ..	29
Floors repaired or renewed ... ..	27
Plasterwork renewed ... ..	71
Sinks and washbasins renewed ... ..	14
Sink waste pipes renewed ... ..	19
Skirting boards renewed ... ..	4
Water supply system:—	
Back boilers renewed ... ..	2
Cold water tanks renewed ... ..	6
Hot water cylinders renewed ... ..	3
Pipes repaired ... ..	22
Taps renewed ... ..	5
Dirty water supplies cleared ... ..	3
Stair steps repaired ... ..	3
Underfloor ventilation renewed ... ..	1
Woodworm ... ..	3

### Houses—External

Chimneys repaired ... ..	16
Chimney pots renewed ... ..	13
Damp walls treated ... ..	28



	Visits	Revisits
Dustbins renewed ... ..	1045	
Eaves spouts renewed ... ..	34	
Lead flashings renewed ... ..	13	
Main water pipes renewed ... ..	19	
Roofs repaired ... ..	44	
Bay window roofs repaired ... ..	4	
Windows:—		
Frames repaired ... ..	41	
Sashes repaired ... ..	36	
Sashcords renewed ... ..	216	
Fasteners renewed ... ..	31	
Walls repaired ... ..	29	
Yards repaved ... ..	18	
<b>Coalplaces</b>		
Floors ... ..	1	
Doors and frames repaired ... ..	2	
Roofs repaired ... ..	4	
Walls repaired ... ..	6	
<b>Closets</b>		
Basins renewed ... ..	13	
Flushing cisterns renewed ... ..	17	
Flushpipes renewed ... ..	10	
Seats renewed ... ..	7	
Doors and frames repaired ... ..	5	
Eaves spouts ... ..	3	
Roofs repaired ... ..	11	
Walls repaired ... ..	9	
New—additional ... ..	1	
<b>Drains</b>		
Cleansed ... ..	152	
Reconstructed ... ..	6	
Cesspools provided ... ..	1	
Inspection chambers provided ... ..	4	
Inspection chamber covers renewed ... ..	6	
Ventilation pipes renewed ... ..	5	
Gullies and grates renewed ... ..	4	
Sewers cleansed ... ..	6	
<b>General</b>		
Animals and poultry removed ... ..	2	
Accumulations removed ... ..	2	
Premises cleared of Rats and Mice ... ..	110	
<b>Factories</b>		
Water closets cleansed ... ..	3	
Water closets provided ... ..	2	
Urinals cleansed ... ..	2	

#### Work Carried Out on Default of Owners

This work is carried out only as a last resort and tenders were obtained for repair work on four properties at a total cost of £108 8s. 0d.



## **Property Repairs**

Many materials are easier to obtain, but the costs have a tendency to increase. The main trouble at the moment is labour, and many jobs are held up for this reason. Only recently workmen refused to leave work on new buildings to do jobbing work, and this is a common experience.

## **Housing Repairs and Rent Act 1954, Section 26**

Thirty-three applications were made by tenants for Certificates of Disrepair. After inspection twenty-six certificates were granted and seven applications refused.

Nine applications were made for revocation certificates, seven were granted, and two refused, but these two were granted at a later date after further work had been done.

## **PROSECUTIONS**

### **Byelaws with respect to Tents, Vans, Sheds and Similar Structures**

Fourteen persons were prosecuted under these byelaws on twenty-seven charges. One case was dismissed, but the others were fined £1 on each charge.

## **SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA**

### **Water Supply**

With the exception of ten houses on shallow wells and four on boreholes, all were on the public supply, sixteen of these were served by standpipes.

Six samples were taken for chemical analysis. Two, from the public supply, were moderately hard, free from metallic contamination, and showed no solvent action on lead. Two were from shallow wells and both were very hard, one was slightly acid. Two were from boreholes, and one contained excessive amounts of iron. All were of good organic purity.

No samples were taken for bacterial test.

### **Closet Accommodation**

All properties within reach of the sewers are on the water carriage system. There are eight privies and twenty-five pail closets, all a long way from the sewer.

### **Cleansing of Drains**

The arrangements for clearing choked drains continue and such nuisances are rapidly abated.

## Municipal Dustbin Scheme

The rate-borne scheme for the removal of dustbins is now working well, and 1,045 dustbins were supplied during the year.

## Flooding

There was no threat of flooding. The internal surface water drainage system has kept the district dry, and the river never reached danger level.

## Verminous Premises

The following premises were treated for vermin:—

Type of Vermin	Council Houses	Private Houses
Ants ... ..	22	1
Bugs ... ..	1	6
Blackclocks .	9	14
Earwigs ...	19	—
Moths ...	1	—
Silver Fish ..	2	—
Woodworm .	3	—

These infestations were treated with D.D.T. and Gammexane in both powder and liquid form according to type of vermin. Liquid D.D.T. was used in some food-preparing places and slaughterhouses, and some food shops used electric vapourisers to eliminate the fly nuisance. These varied types of treatment showed good results.

## Rodent Control

Modern methods of control have meant that preventative measures could be taken at places which have been notorious as rat harbours.

It is surprising how soon there can be a build-up of rats at such places and constant attention is necessary to keep them down, the winter period is usually a busy time for this work. The number of bodies found is no indication of the total kill, as many bodies are found afterwards upon removal of stores and rubbish.

### Details of Rat and Mice Treatment

Complaints received	...	...	111
Premises treated	...	...	171
Poison baits laid	...	...	5,538

## Atmospheric Pollution

The three instruments set up by the Department of Scientific and Industrial Research to gauge the extent of atmospheric pollution were in operation throughout the year.

## Investigation of Atmospheric Pollution Analysis

Month	Rain in Inches	Insoluble Deposit tons per Square Mile	Soluble Deposit tons per Square Mile	Total Solids Tons per Sq. Mile	Sulphur mg/100 sq. cms./day
January ..	1.24	9.38	6.40	15.78	2.99
February ...	1.88	6.50	6.08	12.58	1.60
March ...	2.42	9.07	10.32	19.39	1.65
April ... ..	0.97	9.35	4.38	13.73	1.31
May ... ..	1.99	5.66	5.91	11.57	0.68
June ... ..	2.63	16.16	6.46	22.62	0.71
July ... ..	0.27	7.54	4.07	11.61	0.56
August ...	0.64	9.52	3.82	13.34	0.64
September .	0.48	9.56	4.72	14.28	2.30
October ...	1.61	9.76	4.17	13.93	1.55
November ...	1.88	8.51	4.38	12.89	2.02
December ...	2.42	14.42	10.01	24.43	2.01
Average per Month ...	1.54	9.62	5.89	15.51	1.48
Average per Month 1954	2.22	8.11	6.67	14.78	1.24

### Smoke Observations

Seven observations were taken of the chimneys of the South Yorkshire Woodworking Co. These chimneys did not show excessive amounts of black smoke, but the nuisance consisted of the emission of partially burnt sawdust and wood chippings which settled on everything and caused immense labour for housewives in the vicinity. Everything was made filthy—washing, babies in prams, house interiors, footpaths and roads. Statutory action was taken towards the end of the year and final inspections have not yet been made.

It is a pleasure to be able to report that the colliery chimney kept up its record of little or no smoke during the year.

### Burning Colliery Tip

The tip has been a nuisance throughout the year and at times it has been very offensive. Water sprays have been in use and the quantity of water increased, tipping on alternate sites has also been carried out with very little lasting effect. The tip was being extended and the old parts were being left alone, so there may be some mitigation of the nuisance.

### Moveable Dwellings

There were nine sites containing thirty-six vans for which licences were issued, and all complied with the Council's requirements.

Wandering van dwellers have been a thorough pest, prosecutions, impounding of the horses, and other actions have not had the desired effect, and a more stringent method of dealing with them is necessary.

## **Offensive Trades**

Bone Boiler and Blood Drier ... ..	1	...
Rag Store ... ..	1	

The bone boiling business has caused a nuisance from offensive smells at intervals, mainly due to carelessness and lack of supervision at the cookers. The technical facilities are satisfactory, but the use of them has been faulty. The owner was called before the Council, and he gave an assurance that there would be little if any trouble in the future.

## **LICENCES ISSUED AND REGISTRATIONS**

### **Petroleum**

Thirty-one licences were issued for the storage of petroleum in bulk.

### **Pet Animals Act 1951**

Two licences were issued to keep pet shops.

### **Rag Flock and Other Filling Materials Act 1951**

Two premises were registered for upholstery work.

## **MILK AND DAIRIES ACTS AND ORDERS**

### **Dairymen and Dairies**

Retailers taken off the register ... ..	Nil
Retailers entered on the register ... ..	Nil
Retailers on register 31st December, 1955 ...	11
Premises on register 31st December, 1955 ...	5

One small-capacity pasteurising plant was established and is working very well. All dairies were kept in a satisfactory condition.

### **Milk (Special Designations) Regulations 1949**

Dealers licences for sale of:—

Pasteurised Milk ... ..	7
Tuberculin Tested Milk ... ..	6
Sterilised Milk ... ..	47
Accredited Milk ... ..	1

Supplementary licences for sale of:—

Pasteurised Milk ... ..	4
Tuberculin Tested Milk ... ..	3
Sterilised Milk ... ..	3

## **SUPERVISION OF THE FOOD SUPPLY FOOD AND DRUGS ACT 1938**

### **Slaughterhouses**

There are five slaughterhouses and one knacker's yard licensed for use. With the resumption of private slaughtering one slaughterhouse has been very busy and the others have been in regular use.

### **Public Health (Meat) Regulations 1924**

Special notices from slaughterhouses ... ..	335
Special notices from other premises ... ..	5

These regulations have been properly observed by people slaughtering animals for food.

## Slaughter of Animals Act 1933

Humane slaughtering of all animals in accordance with the Act is in force throughout the district.

No. of slaughtermen's licences issued ... .. 28

## Milk Sampling

No samples were taken.

## Registered Food Premises

Retailers of Ice Cream and Lollilops ... .. 45

Preparation or manufacture of sausages, potted,  
pickled, pressed or preserved foods ... .. 15

Fish Friers ... .. 14

All places visited were found to be in a clean and satisfactory condition.

## Food Shops

### Canteens and Kitchens

### Ice Cream Retailers

Very few visits were made, but thoses few places were satisfactory.

## Sampling of Food

There was no sampling of food, ice cream or milk for bacterial or biological testing.

## Meat and Food Inspection

Visits to Slaughterhouses ... .. 373

Inspections of Meat and Other Foods ... .. 412

No. of Condemnations ... .. 568

Animals slaughtered:—

Horses ... .. 2,378

Cows... .. 221

Bullocks and Heifers ... .. 448

Bulls ... .. 3

Calves ... .. 4

Pigs ... .. 1,044

Sheep ... .. 26

## Condemnations

	lbs.
Cows—Carcases and Offals—45	27,150
Forequarters—6	810
Hindquarters—1	100
Lungs—47	1,320
Livers—22	322
Kidneys—8	24
Heads and Tongues—12	520
Mesenteries—19	328
Udders—3	36



				lbs.	ozs.
Bullocks—Carcases and Offals—7	...	...	...	4,350	
Forequarters—4	...	...	...	490	
Portions—1	...	...	...	25	
Lungs—27	...	...	...	900	
Livers—173	...	...	...	2,702	
Heads and Tongues—27	...	...	...	1,280	
Mesenteries—16	...	...	...	272	
Hearts—1	...	...	...	12	
Bulls—Carcases and Offals—1	...	...	...	550	
Calves—Carcases and Offals—1	...	...	...	160	
Pigs—Carcases and Offals—10	...	...	...	2,884	
Forequarters—2	...	...	...	80	
Plucks—12	...	...	...	104	
Lungs—29	...	...	...	64	
Livers—36	...	...	...	80	
Hearts—1	...	...	...	1	
Kidneys—2	...	...	...		8
Heads and Tongues—5	...	...	...	78	
Mesenteries—3	...	...	...	6	
Horses—Carcases and Offals—9	...	...	...	8,250	
Forequarters—1	...	...	...	200	
Hindquarters—1	...	...	...	250	
Lungs—11	...	...	...	30	
Livers—150	...	...	...	1,950	
Sheep—Lungs and Liver—1	...	...	...	4	
Sauce, Bovril, etc.—16 bottles	...	...	...	5	2
Pickles, etc.—3 jars	...	...	...	2	
Coffee—10 bottles	...	...	...	2	
Jams, etc.—23 jars	...	...	...	24	
Milk and Cream—11 tins	...	...	...	8	2
Fruit—46 tins	...	...	...	44	8
Vegetables—78 tins	...	...	...	114	4
Meat—1,139 tins	...	...	...	1,020	9
Ham, Tongue and Veal—35 tins	...	...	...	220	5
Fish—85 tins	...	...	...	49	10
Fish and Meat Pastes—8 tins	...	...	...	2	
Fish Cakes—96	...	...	...	13	12
Cereals—3 packets	...	...	...	6	8
Puddings—4	...	...	...	4	
Bacon	...	...	...	45	
Cooked Meats	...	...	...	55	
Sausage	...	...	...	152	
Cake Mixtures and Custard Powders	...	...	...	23	
Butter, Margarine and Lard	...	...	...	89	14
Cheese	...	...	...	92	5
Dates and Figs	...	...	...	5	
Pork Pies	...	...	...	15	
Bread—6 loaves	...	...	...	12	
Fruit Drinks—1	...	...	...	1	9
Total	...	...	...	57,340	0

## CARCASSES AND OFFAL INSPECTED AND CONDEMNED IN WHOLE OR IN PART

	Cattle excluding Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs	Horses
Number killed ... ..	451	221	4	26	1,044	2,378
Number inspected ... ..	451	221	4	26	1,044	2,378
<b>All diseases except Tuberculosis and Cysticerci</b>						
Whole carcasses condemned ...	3	14	1	—	8	10
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned ...	166	17	—	2	74	144
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than Tubercu- losis and Cysticerci ... ..	44·10	14·03	25	7·69	7·85	6·48
<b>Tuberculosis only</b>						
Whole carcasses condemned ...	5	33	—	—	1	—
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned ...	80	55	—	—	11	—
Percentage of the number inspected affected with Tuberculosis ... ..	13·84	39·82	—	—	1·15	—
<b>Cysticercosis</b>						
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned ...	—	—	—	—	—	—
Carcasses submitted to treat- ment by refrigeration ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—
Generalised and totally con- demned ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—

## INFECTIOUS DISEASES

### 1—Cases Notified and Investigated

Cases notified ... ..	53
Cases removed to hospital ... ..	41

### Classification

Scarlet Fever ... ..	38
Polio-myelitis ... ..	5
Food Poisoning ... ..	5
Dysentery ... ..	5

### Distribution

Ward	Scarlet Fever	Polio- myelitis	Food Poisoning	Dysentery	Total
Bentley Road	8	2	—	1	11
New Village	5	1	1	1	8
Old Bentley	1	1	—	1	3
Toll Bar ...	4	—	3	—	7
Arksey ...	—	—	—	—	—
North Road	20	1	1	2	24
	38	5	5	5	53



## **2—Tuberculosis**

New Notifications	...	...	...	13
No. on register 31st December, 1955:—				
Pulmonary	...	...	...	146
Non Pulmonary	...	...	...	30

## **3—Disinfections**

Houses	...	...	...	...	26
--------	-----	-----	-----	-----	----

### **HOUSING ACTS 1936-1954—OVERCROWDING**

No complaint of overcrowding was received.

The list of applications for houses is still a long one and people living in rooms and lodgings and certain medical cases can be considered.

### **HOUSING ACT 1936, SECTION II**

No undertakings were given, but three houses were demolished following the service of demolition orders.

### **HOUSING ACTS 1936-1954—CLEARANCE AREAS**

The plans and maps of clearance areas commenced in 1954 were completed early in the year and were put into operation. There were five areas containing twenty-one houses for which clearance orders were made, appeals against the orders were made by three owners, but one appeal was withdrawn. All the orders were confirmed after the inquiry and ten families were rehoused before the year end. A provisional selection of houses for the continuance of this work has been made already.







